Solid Waste Advisory Committee Minutes of Meeting Video Conference September 15, 2020

Present: Julie Sherman, Pene Williams, Susan Spak, Rita Kornblum, Roxana Macanu, Ted Busky, Shelby Fuerst, Virginia Walton (staff)

The meeting was called to order at 6:31 pm by Chairperson Sherman.

On a motion by Kornblum/Busky, the August 18, 2020 meeting minutes were approved.

Busky reported on the September 11, 2020 swap shop subcommittee meeting, outlining the goals they set. The swap shop volunteers are requesting that the swap shop re-open with some COVID protections in place. On a motion by Kornblum/Spak the committee unanimously approved sending a letter to the Town Manager and Public Works Director requesting that the swap shop open up.

Walton reported that the schools are not composting or using washable items for lunch. One member stated that her children are telling her they are not recycling either. Walton shared two flyers on packing reusable lunches that have been created by a group across Connecticut interested in school zero waste. On a motion by Shelby/Sherman, the committee approved having the Solid Waste Advisory Committee added to the names of supporter. Walton will send the flyer to the superintendent of schools asking if it can go in the electronic communication. It was noted that school lunch is free through December, so there may be little incentive to pack a lunch. Shelby will contact the food service manager about washing dishes. Walton will remind the schools that recycling is a state and local law.

The application requesting permission to compost school food scraps at the Mansfield Transfer Station has been sent to CT DEEP.

Members reviewed a draft correspondence to the Town Council asking them to pass a resolution in support of the Break Free from Plastic Pollution Act at the state and federal level. On a motion by Busky/Kornblum, the Committee unanimously approved the correspondence to the Council. Walton will share this with the Sustainability Committee and ask for their endorsement.

It was reported that the Town Council will be taking up the issue of newspaper litter at an upcoming meeting. Sherman asked that residents be reminded to pick up litter along their road. Walton will draft something for the trash bill inserts and town social media. Sherman will post on Mansfield Connections Face Book.

The next meeting is scheduled for October 20, 2020.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:08 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Virginia Walton